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Det samfunnsvitenskapelige fakultet

INFO216 v2016: Project submission
Candidate 139, May 20, 2016

Project description

Purpose

It is a system used to model some situation during an Apollo 13 mission. The model consists of a *Truth Maintenance System* (loosely based on [Doyle](#)) and annotations using *rdfs:seeAlso*. The TMS allows *beliefs* in a *knowledge base* to be manipulated over time. The annotation system can be used to keep track of *why* some belief is held/not held, as well as arbitrary data.

Why

The Apollo 13 mission is interesting. Even though the people involved performed stellarly, mistakes were made. Some mistakes were trivial and I wanted to see if a situation could be modelled to avoid those mistakes.

Why semantic technologies

For the TMS I have used some *inference*. I.e. a user can say “*A* is in the *IN-list* of *B*”—and through inference we will know that *A* is a belief and *B* is a *justification*. There are several of these inferences possible in the model. When we make the model smarter, the *app* becomes smaller.

There is also an example of fetching data from *DBPedia* in the app. Merging knowledge is difficult to *do well* using non-semantic technologies.

Tools, standards, vocabularies

- I have lifted some data using python (namely the voice transcripts). I chose python because it's a great scripting language.
- Both the knowledge base and the reasoner are stored in Fuseki, each in its own graph. The default graph was not used. Sparql has been used to query the TDB via Fuseki, but not all queries are made against the TDB directly—some are made using the Jena Model API. This mix is almost random, except for a few cases where SPARQL was easier. The Fuseki db is updated whenever necessary.
- Data appear in both Turtle and N3. I chose these formats because they are quite common.
- I have used RDFS, Provenance, Simple Event Model, a self made vocabulary (JTMS) and several others vocabularies. Provenance was used to annotate; SEM to model the voice transcripts. JTMS was made to model the TMS.
- Java libraries used are Jena, MigLayout and JGrapix. Jena was the best semantic library I could find, and MigLayout and JGrapix were used for their graphical abilities.
- The code is object oriented loosely following a *model-view-controller* pattern. I've chosen this so that I can logically separate the three.

Reading/converting/lifting

See appendix [A](#) for a flow diagram of data from various sources.

Class diagram

See appendix [B](#) for a class diagram.

Future implications

I've had difficulty learning the Jena API, hence the various ways to obtain data (*sparql*, *list-Statements*). Next time I'll start a couple of other projects using Jena, and I will also join a group. I have done everything on my own, which have reduced the quality of the project.

The project code quality is low—no unit tests, highly inconsistent API usage and, at times, cryptic logic. Me being alone on the project is partly to blame. It is also due to the fact that my idea of an implementation changed over the course of the semester. Joining a group would put more pressure on developing an idea sooner (in most cases), and it would also reduce the stress of the feeling of not having enough time. I will do so for my next group project.

Appendices

A Flowchart

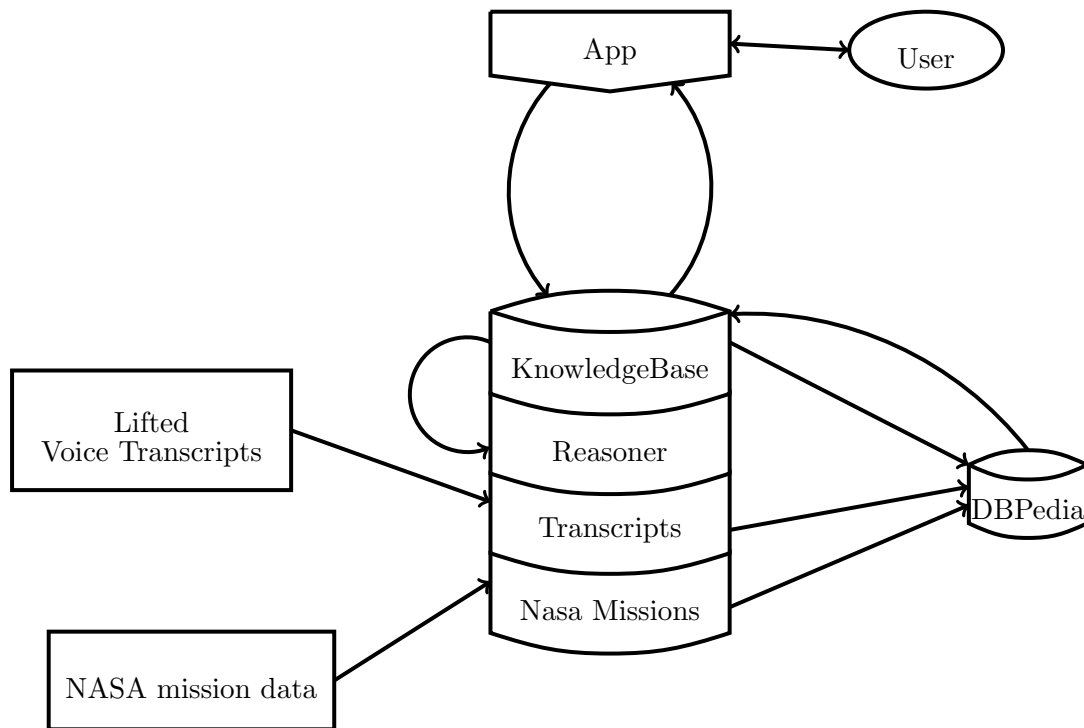


Figure 1: Flow chart

B Class diagram

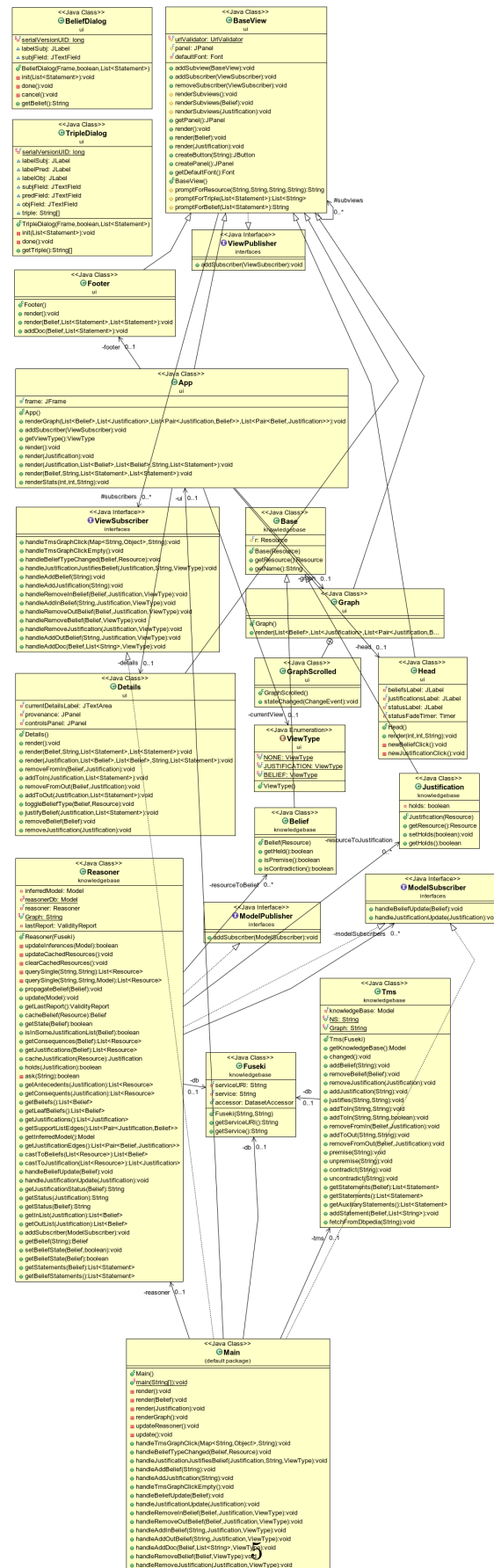


Figure 2: Class diagram

References

Doyle, J. (1992). Reason maintenance and belief revision: Foundations vs. coherence theories. *Belief revision*, 29:29–51.